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**PRESS RELEASE – Approval of Criminal Complaint for Concealment of Whereabouts of a Child  
by Biological Father in Egypt**

February 10, 2012

The Franklin County District Attorney is issuing the following in relation to criminal charges filed on this date against Mohammed Araby Atteya, and the events surrounding the abduction and continuing concealment of his son from the child's biological mother, Kalliopi Atteya.

Kalliopi Atteya last saw her son on August 1, 2011, in Cairo, Egypt. He was last seen with his father, in a vehicle fleeing her location, while crying and pounding on the inside of the back window. Numerous agencies outside of Franklin County have been involved in the investigation and analysis of this matter to date, to include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of State, and Egyptian law enforcement authorities. In December of 2011, Kalliopi Atteya requested a meeting with District Attorney Matt Fogal. She provided the District Attorney and members of the Pennsylvania State Police her account of the events that transpired both at home and in Egypt, and also provided documentary evidence involved in the case. After thorough review of that evidence, and after exhaustive review and analysis of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, the District Attorney has determined that criminal charges in this jurisdiction are appropriate.

The Defendant, Mr. Atteya, has been charged on this date with a violation of 18 Pa.C.S. §2909, Concealment of the Whereabouts of a Child. The offense is grade as a Felony of the Third Degree, carrying a statutory maximum penalty of 7 years incarceration and a \$15,000 fine. 18 Pa.C.S. §2909 provides as follows:

**§ 2909. Concealment of whereabouts of a child.**

(a) **Offense defined.**--A person who removes a child from the child's known place of residence with the intent to conceal the child's whereabouts from the child's parent or guardian, unless concealment is authorized by court order or is a reasonable response to domestic violence or child abuse, commits a felony of the third degree. For purposes of this subsection, the term "removes" includes personally removing the child from the child's known place of residence, causing the child to be removed from the child's known place of residence, preventing the child from returning or being returned to the child's known place of residence and, when the child's parent or guardian has a reasonable expectation that the person will return the child, failing to return the child to the child's known place of residence.

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February 12, 2012

**(b) Application.**--A person may be convicted under subsection (a) if either of the following apply:

- (1) The acts that initiated the concealment occurred in this Commonwealth.
- (2) The offender or the parent or guardian from whom the child is being concealed resides in this Commonwealth.

An arrest warrant has been issued by Magisterial District Judge Kelly Rock on this date.

The victim's family was consulted regarding this decision, and is in agreement. Ms. Atteya and members of her family have been extraordinarily cooperative and patient under these traumatic circumstances.

The District Attorney is hopeful that the initiation of this criminal proceeding will provide the opportunity to hold the Defendant accountable for his actions, and also ultimately provide for the safe return of Ms. Atteya's son to Franklin County.

*\*NOTE: The defendant is accused of the above offense, and readers are reminded that all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*